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Abraham Lincoln

From Berks County Pennsylvania
by way of Virginia Indiana
and Illinois to the
Presidency

An address by
Mrs. J. M. Owen Keiser
[Edith Randolph]

Report, Berks County Chapter
Reading Room
Honorary Vice President
Berks Co.

December 19 1908

with appended instructions
concerning the
of Berks County
at the Present Time

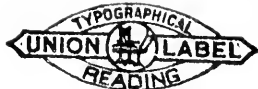
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THE READING HERALD

Established 1881.

WILLIAM McCORMICK Editor and Proprietor
HERALD BUILDING, 13 N. 5TH ST.



READING, PA., DECEMBER 19, 1908.

The Berks County Chapter, D. A. R., today was edified and instructed by means of two admirable papers; and the members were once more pleased

Alvordyvauna



Mrs. DeB. Randolph Keim.

with the air of friendliness and mutual interest which always pervades the D. A. R. meetings.

Mrs. deB. R. Keim presided. Miss Annie J. H. Printz read a paper on "Christmas in the Revolution." There was much quaint anecdote and history in this account of the way our ancestors spent Christmas time.

Mrs. Keim's paper on the "Two Lincolns" was especially timely in view of the fact that the Senate has before it a bill to provide for the following observances of Lincoln's birthday:



3

"The 12th day of February, 1909, be set apart for a joint session of the two Houses of Congress to be assembled to pay tribute to Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, to listen to an appropriate address upon the life, character, genius, patriotism and public services of the statesman who guided safely the ship of state through its greatest peril, and to otherwise commemorate in fitting manner his invaluable services to this nation.

TO CELEBRATE CENTENNIAL.

"Resolved, further, That we recommend that the American people at home and abroad, the States and Territories, and the District of Columbia, all municipalities and towns, all organized bodies of citizens, church as well as state, all associations, civil, military, patriotic, fraternal, scientific and social, labor and trade societies, chambers of commerce and boards of trade, and other civic, commercial and industrial bodies, and all others, set apart the centennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln to do reverent honor to his memory.

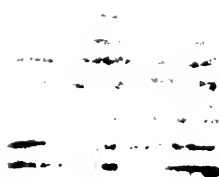
"Resolved, further, That we recommend that at all places where people gather for public purposes addresses be made in eulogy of Lincoln, that the emancipation proclamation be read, his Gettysburg speech repeated, and that wherever possible a short history of his life, his Gettysburg address, and suitable excerpts from his addresses and correspondence be printed for circulation in pamphlets, magazines, periodicals and newspapers.

"Resolved further, That inasmuch as his triumph over the adverse circumstances of early years should be an incentive to the youth of the land, we recommend that on this day special and appropriate exercises be held in colleges, universities, academies and schools, and all other seats of learning to teach the lesson of the life and achievements of this great exemplar of our American civilization.

MONUMENT FOR HIM.

"Resolved further, That we recommend action looking to the erection in the city of Washington of a monument which shall be worthy his great fame, his service to humanity and to his country, and fittingly commemorate the grandeur of character, the nobility of life and the epoch-making career of Abraham Lincoln."

A portion of Mrs. Keim's delightful paper follows. It showed the Daughters Berks County's claim to Lincoln and was a great pleasure to all who heard it:



A cut of the
 Lincoln Home
 sent ~~us~~ of studies
 to Doug from the Eagle
 Reading Pa
 Dec 20 1908

As it appears 1908 - in the 1860's
a drive a very addition was made to the
MRS. KEIM'S ESSAY. in. and
About one mile below former Exe- house

MRS. KEIM'S ESSAY.

Here was born the first American Abraham Lincoln. As there has been so much misunderstanding of the current events associated with this name, it appears an obligation upon the Berks County Chapter to clear up the confusion as far as practicable.

FROM ENGLAND IN 1638.

John Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has been designated as Interimly not confirmed by Surroundings in Bureau Magazine. The following are the activities of the Bureau of Investigation:

This Samuel Lincoln had a son Mor-

decal, who was born and lived and died in Massachusetts.

FROM JERSEY TO AMITY.

This Mordecai had a son, second of that name, born in the colony of Massachusetts the year after William Penn arrived in his province. This son removed to Monmouth, New Jersey, and thence into Pennsylvania and settled in then Amity township, Philadelphia, later Berks County, incorporated in 1752. This Mordecai Lincoln's name appears on the list of taxables of 1734 in Amity township for 500 acres, indicating his arrival before that date, and a man of estate.

In the following year this Mordecai Lincoln died at 53 years of age. His will is on record. Squire ~~Boone~~ Boone, father of Daniel, the famous pioneer, was one of the appraisers of the estate, and executor to assist the widow to care for her own and children's interests. In this document the deceased is styled "gentleman."

THE HANKS WERE NEIGHBORS.

John Lincoln, his son, it is said, received a bequest of land in New Jersey and went there. The list of taxables of Amity township for 1741 records the name of John Lincoln, charged with six pounds tax. In the same year this part of Amity was incorporated as Exeter township, in which this venerated home still stands.

At the time of his arrival in Amity township Mordecai Lincoln had few neighbors and they widely scattered, among them west of the Oley Hills the Boones, who dwelt in the vicinity of now Baumstown, house still standing; Hanks, not far distant; Bertolets, near now Friedensburg; Keims and Lees, near now Pleasantville; Yoders, Levans and a few others.

Then the Oley Hills were the farthest frontiers of the province exposed to burning and scalping incursions of the savage Confederate Iroquois from the lake region of the interior of New York.

About the year 1750 there was a stir among the infant settlements along the Schuylkill and its tributaries, the Manatawny and Monocacy. The twinkling star of Empire was ascendant. The Boones, Squire ~~Boone~~ Boone, the family afterwards made famous by his son Daniel, then a lad of 17, and John Hank, even more famous, as we shall see, determined to penetrate the wilderness to the distant south. In this migration John Lincoln joined.

In the year named possibly with others but we know George Boone, John Hank and John Lincoln loaded their worldly belongings, yoked their oxen, mounted their horses if they had

1717

1730

Low Lands
of the Lower
Company.

In May
1733 he
purchased
by lot
clear
lots of the
estate.

He was
buried in
the grave
yard of the
Exeter
Meeting
house.

his son

Robert
Hank

X Land Office Treasury Mar
No 434 in the name of
Abraham Lincoln
is a grant, directed to the
Surveyor of any county
within the Commonwealth
of Virginia, No 400 a
\$160 current money.
Dated Mar 4 1788. This
warrant was located on
Long Run branch of Floy
Creek Fork in Jefferson
County Entered May 29.
Surveyed May 7 1785. The
was the home tract &
others were also located
and remained some 4
in the family.

any, or marched on foot most likely and struck out for another land of promise.

TRAPPED THROUGH WILDERNESS

It is safe to say, as there was then no other feasible way, they tramped through the unshorn wilderness along the banks of the Schuylkill to the Tulpehocken, and following that stream struck across to the headwaters and down the Swatara (now Lebanon Valley) to the Susquehanna, thence down the Cumberland Valley to the Potomac, thence along the banks of the Shenandoah to now Rockingham county, Virginia. Here the party divided, John Lincoln taking up land for a settlement, John Hank remaining with him. The Boones pushed onward to North Carolina, settling themselves in the vicinity of the Yadkin.

John Lincoln in his new home became a man of consequence and family, taking a North Carolina wife, Mary Shipley, and having five sons, the oldest Abraham, serving in the war of the revolution as lieutenant in a Virginia regiment at the siege of Yorktown.

A lapse of nineteen years transpires (1769) when Daniel Boone, a fearless man of 36, starts from North Carolina on his perilous and world renowned penetration of the "dark and bloody" wilds of Kentucky.

After another lapse of ten years John Lincoln, late of Berks county, Pennsylvania, now of Rockingham county, Virginia, hearing of the exploits of ~~the~~ former Berks county neighbor, Boone, goes forth on a prospecting tour through the same region. Pleased with the country and locating a place of settlement in then Jefferson county, Kentucky, he returned to Virginia, packed his effects, wife and five children and emigrated west.

KILLED BY INDIANS.

This change proved fatal to him, as he was killed by Indians (1782) but he left three sons, the youngest Thomas.

Old ties of home and friendship in Berks were still strong. Thomas Lincoln married Nancy Hank, granddaughter of John Hank, of the original trio in the Berks southward emigration thirty odd years before.

~~Whether this action making a new look upon the Virgins in Kentucky is not definitely ascertained, but probably the latter. At all events, the particular occurrence which concerns us is the interesting fact that Thomas and Nancy Hank Lincoln, then living in~~

9

son of

Boone

Boone in Virginia

no more
is seen etc

The grave of the mother of
Abraham Lincoln Presi-
dent of the U.S lies on a
hill in a natural forest
at Lincoln City the former
home of Thomas Lincoln
in ~~Spencer~~ ^{Laurens} County ~~Laurens~~
24 m from Booneville.
It was taken over by the
state and named Nancy
Hank Lincoln Park. The
grave is marked by a
simple monument sculp-
tured out of stone taken
from the mausoleum
of her illustrious son
at Springfield Illinois.
It bears inscription

Nancy Hank Lincoln
mother of President Lincoln
died Oct 5th 1878
aged 45 years Erected by a
friend of her married son
1879

Hardin county, touching on the Ohio River (not far below present Louisville, had born on Feb. 12, 1809, a son whom they named Abraham after his revolutionary fighters.

It is mentioned the mother was beautiful, refined, of positive character and had a knowledge of letters sufficient to teach her husband and son how to read and write, an exemplary type of woman of Christian spirit and useful application. It is said, rifle in hand, she would penetrate the forest overrun by savage men and ferocious beasts and with unerring aim kill game, dress and cook the flesh for food and tan and fashion the skins into clothing.

MOVED TO PIGEON CREEK.

With that ever restless instinct of frontier life the parents with little Abe, then 7 years of age, and the rest of their flock and belongings removed to Pigeon Creek near now Evansville, where the boy worked on his father's farm and attended the village school. At 19 he took a turn flatboating to New Orleans, two years later (1830) settled at Macon, Ill., and the next year served as private, then captain in the Black Hawk War.

Year by year he grew older and step by step climbed the ladder of fame, postmaster, land surveyor, student at law, member of the Illinois Legislature, attorney at law Springfield, Illinois, State canvasser for Henry Clay for the presidency (1844), representative in the 30th Congress from Illinois as a whig and canvassed Illinois against Stephen A. Douglas (1858) for the United States Senate.

Although defeated in the Legislature, Mr. Lincoln received a round majority of the popular vote which led to his nomination and election as President

of the United States two years after. His re-election followed in 1864 and his assassination a few weeks after his second inauguration.

The last are events in passing history which some of us may faintly recall. It will be seen Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, President of the United States, was ~~great-grandson~~ of Mordecai Lincoln, second of the name and grandnephew of Abraham Lincoln, of Berks county. His ancestors dwelt and collateral lines of his parent stock survive in the vicinity of the Lincoln acres in Berks county.

BERKS' PART IN IT.

It might be asked what has this to do with Berks County in the American Revolution. Mordecai, second of

was La Rue Co
3 mi from
Hodgensville
Berks Virginia

Great
great

13
8
first of the
9. name
t

the name, and Mary Lincoln had among their children a posthumous son, Abraham, ~~grand-uncle~~ of the President, born in 1736 in the paternal home in Amity (Exeter township), Berks, then part of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, a few months after his father's death.

There was also a Mordecai third, brother of Abraham, as his name appears in the list of taxables of Exeter township, Berks County, 1759, for 10 pounds, which indicates a goodly estate.

Abraham Lincoln ~~above~~ was a man of affairs in Pennsylvania. The first act of his recorded career was his marriage at 22 years of age. The bride was Ann, daughter of James and Mary (Poulk) Boone, the father full cousin of Daniel, the celebrated frontiersman. The marriage appears to have caused a sensation, which further sustains that the Lincolns were not Quakers.

NOT A QUAKER, ALAS!

A minute exists in the records of the Exeter meeting, Oct. 27, 1761, that she (Anne Boone) condoned her marriage to one who was not a member of the society. Mordecai and Anne Boone Lincoln had four sons, Mordecai, James, Thomas and John, the latter grandfather of the President, and five daughters, Mary, Martha, Ann, Anna and Phoebe.

great

The ~~grand~~ grand uncle of Abraham Lincoln, President, was a man of importance in many ways before, during and after the War of Independence.

In 1772 he was County Commissioner under the Penn proprietors, and held that important local office when the clash of arms began. His influence among his neighbors won him continued honor in the same office by re-election until 1778, when he retired, having accepted on March 21 of the year before the post of sub-lieutenant in the Berks County military organization of the Revolution.

IN THE ASSEMBLY.

In the last year of that conflict he entered the General Assembly of Pennsylvania for Berks County, serving 1782-1786. He was delegate to the Pennsylvania convention of December, 1787, to ratify the constitution of the United States, framed in that year.

It does not appear, however, that he appended his name to the ratification, although it carried 46 to 23. There were differences in those days about adopting the constitution, as there are now in applying it. Something for political parties to contest over.

Abraham Lincoln President
of the U S was fourth unde-
scend from

Mordecai Lincoln² who
settled in Herkes County
(then Shula) his son

1 John Lincoln his son

2 Abraham Lincoln his son

3 Thomas Lincoln his son

4 Abraham Lincoln Presi-
dent of the U S 1861-65,

The Pennsylvania settler
in Shula (Herkes) County

was great, great grandfather

15
9
The same Abraham Lincoln was elected one of the 69 delegates to the Pennsylvania convention which assembled in Philadelphia Nov. 24, 1789, and fashioned the state constitution of 1790.

After many more years of useful and exemplary living the career of the Berks County Abraham Lincoln came to its close on his estate in the township of his birth on Jan. 31, 1866, at the advanced age of 70 years, leaving his name and blood perpetuated in the preservation of the Union of States which he had served to create.

THE BERKS ANCESTRY.

The Berks ancestry as far as it relates to Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, is this:

Mordecai Lincoln, of Berks, ^{great} great-grandfather. His son, John Lincoln, of Virginia, great-grandfather. His son, Thomas Lincoln, of Kentucky, father.

his son The starting point within the territory of the Berks County Chapter of such an interesting combination of evolution and discovery is interesting and in real life certainly rare.

It is a pleasure to recall meeting Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the President, while Secretary of War in the Garfield and Arthur cabinets.

HERE IS BERKS' CHANCE.

An interesting coincidence in connection with what has been said about the two Abraham Lincolns and one which Berks County Chapter should make prominent, is that in the senate of the U. S. Senator Dick, of Ohio, has introduced a concurrent resolution providing for the centennial observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, President, great-great-grandson of Mordecai Lincoln, whose former home is almost within sight and in a good state of preservation. Here is our opportunity as the Berks County Chapter, Pennsylvania State organization and National Society of the D. A. R.

In the Dick resolution of which I have a newspaper print and of which I shall have official copies, under which the movement is started, and doubtless will be authorized and become a National affair.

As President Lincoln's grandfather lived and died in Berks county, his home still standing; as his paternal and maternal grandparents removed from Berks county to Rockingham county, Virginia, and his parents thence to Hardin county, Kentucky, where he was born; it is extremely

10

appropriate that the Berks County Chapter should participate in whatever commemoration shall be had under the Senate concurrent resolution.

ELECT NEW OFFICERS.

These officers were elected for the ensuing year, the secretary casting the ballot: Regent, Mrs. Keim; vice regent, Mrs. William Brusstar; recording secretary, Mrs. J. C. Illig; corresponding secretary, registrar, Miss Addie C. Owen; assistant registrar, Emma L. Oberly; treasurer, Mrs. C. M. Steinmetz; historian, Mrs. J. B. Dampman; chaplain, Annie J. H. Printz.

Board of management: The officers and Mrs. G. B. Eckert, Mrs. William J. Frame, Caroline Custer, Mrs. George Brooke, Mrs. R. S. Birch, Mrs. William Rick, M. E. Willson and Sarah E. Gable, president Conrad Weiser Branch, C. A. R.

Refreshments were served today by Mrs. Charles S. Mohr and the Misses Mohr.

The program for the next meeting, Jan. 16, will be as follows: Music, Mrs. J. F. Ancona; paper, "Our French Allies," Miss Rose Seltzer. Refreshment committee, Mrs. R. S. Birch, Mrs. Hunter Henninger, Mrs. John Stewart.



1 This family of Lincoln lived in the brother land on the banks of the river Eye (from which the valley derived its name) about 8 m. from Epsom. The chief town of Devonshire

1683

2 by the time he had grown Thomas's estate this Brodcair was the only male member of the Lincoln family known to be living, two of the surname having been killed by Indians and another returned to England.

3 About 1699 William Penn granted to the London Company a tract of 1000 acres on the Eastern side of the Schuylkill River but a warrant was not ^{granted} ~~issued~~ until Oct 18 1716 upon which a patent was issued Nov 9 1717. In 1718

²
4 In 1747 Israel Boone, Broome
son of "Squire" Boone
married out of meeting
the Squire himself next year
was also ready to proceed
negotiating the marriage.
The Boones and Lincolns
were neighbors for genera-
tions in England.

5 It is ~~the~~ Sandy tradition
Kernick or Philpott Kern
unaccounted for sons of
Thomas Kern ^{by this} and his
2^d wife accompanied this
migration. Kernick in 1790
was 18 years of age. ~~There~~
a family spelled Kern are
living in North Carolina
and claim descent from
the Berk's stock. See
Kern and allied families
6 Settled at Holmwood Ford
South of York near George
Boone became a citizen
there in 1755.

7 The death of a brave man Lincoln
2 father of Thomas and grand
father of Abraham 3 in
after years presentment of the
US occurred as follows:
On ~~the~~^a morning of in 1786 he
started with three sons
Mordecai Joseph and Thomas
then 7 years of age to do some
clearing. A shot from a hunter
killed the father the eldest
son running to the cabin
for his rifle and to reach the
Fort (Hughes station) for assist-
ance. Leaving Thomas with
the dead body of their father.
Mordecai seeing the savages
about to seize the lad with
warning and fired killing
the savage in his tracks -
and the boy Thomas running
to the cabin. The widow soon
removed to Madison County
to get away from danger
Thomas took to carpentering
in the shop of Joseph Hank of
the Beck's store whose daughter
he married

3 continued

This tract was conveyed to Andrew
 Robeson of Rock Ferry Township
 Pluta County but was not occu-
 pied by the Warrentee. On
 May 1730 the tract and
 all rights of the former
 Loudon Company were and
 Robeson were vested by
 Purchase for \$365 in
 Mordecai Lucold ^{second}
 He began a clearing and
 erected a stone farm dwelling
 still in excellent preserved
 form although enlarged by
 a two story addition about
 1868 Although some question
 exists as to his real father
 he contributed a site for
 the Upper Quaker meeting
 house and doubtless was
 a generous contributor
 to the structure itself
 still standing.



The 100th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, will be celebrated on Friday, February 12. He was born in Hardin county, Kentucky, February 12, 1809, elected President in 1860, and was murdered by J. Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, Washington, D. C., on the night of April 14, 1865.

The Old Lincoln Homestead.

Near the Reading Railway, about a mile below Exeter Station, in Exeter township, there is an old stone house in which lived, up to the time of his death, in May, 1736, Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln. The property at present embraces 61 acres, and is owned by Richard G. Lincoln, residing at 220 North Ninth street, this city. He bought the old homestead 12 years ago for \$5,000, from the late Amos Faber. Mrs. Faber had inherited the property from her aunt, Mrs. Sallie Huyett, who died in the old house about 40 years ago.

Nearly 40 years ago a two-story addition was erected to the old house. The picture illustrating this article shows the appearance of the buildings at the present time. Nathan Schaeffer is the tenant on the property and tills the farm.

The Owner of the Property.

Richard G. Lincoln, the owner of the old homestead, was born in Exeter, and is a son of John D. Lincoln, who married Sarah Gilbert, January 24, 1837, and died January 27, 1868. Richard has the following brothers and sisters: Harrison G. Lincoln, 332 Franklin street; Alfred G. Lincoln, Exeter, one mile west of Lorane; Mrs. Samuel R. Hafer, 216 Pear street; Mrs. John Reifsnyder, and Mrs. Martha Focht, Ninth and Elm streets; Mrs. Lewis Ruth, 1021 Pear street, and Mrs. Daniel Biehl, 320 Moss street. Alfred G. and Richard G. favor in their features the late President Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln

Signature of Abraham Lincoln, son of Mordecai Lincoln, born in 1736, in Exeter township, Berks county, then part of Philadelphia county. His father was the paternal ancestor of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States.

Ancestor Came From England.

The lineage of President Lincoln has been traced back to the bank of the river Exe, near Exeter, the chief

city of Devonshire, England. Samuel Lincoln, the earliest ancestor in America, came from the Exe valley, England, and settled in Hingham, Mass., where he died, leaving a son, Mordecai Lincoln, whose son, Mordecai Lincoln, jr., moved to New Jersey, where he lived for a time and then settled nearly 180 years ago on the eastern bank of the Schuylkill river, below what is now Exeter Station, or Lorane. He built a log cabin on land that belonged to what was called the "London Company," and the cabin later gave way to the present old stone building.

In February, 1718, the London Company granted the right to 1,000 acres on the eastern side of the Schuylkill, and 600 acres on the western side of the river to Andrew Robeson, of Roxbury township, Phila. county, "under the yearly quit rent of one beaver skin on the first day of March forever."

Mordecai Lincoln, Jr., Bought the Property in 1730.

Andrew Robeson devised the 1,000 acres on the eastern side of the river to his son, Jonathan Robeson, who in May, 1730, sold the same to Mordecai Lincoln, jr., for £395, and who was already in possession. He devised the land to his two sons, Mordecai and Thomas, and a posthumous son named Abraham.

The Exeter Abraham Lincoln.

Abraham was born in the old stone house and died there in the 70th year of his age in 1808, the same year that President Lincoln was born in Kentucky and named after him. The Exeter Abraham Lincoln became quite prominent in the political history of Berks. He served as County Commissioner from 1772 till 1778; was one of the sub-Lieutenants of Berks; represented the county in the General Assembly from 1782 to 1786, and was a delegate to the Penn'a convention to ratify the Federal Constitution in 1787. He was also a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1789-90. In 1761 he married Anna Boone, who was a daughter of James Boone and Mary Foulke. She was a first cousin of Col. Daniel Boone, the Kentucky pioneer.



13 31

The Boones were Quakers and Abraham Lincoln was a Congregationalist. Hence it appears by the minutes of the Exeter meeting, Oct. 27, 1761, that she was condoned for her marriage to one who was not a member of the Society of Friends. Abraham Lincoln was survived by four sons, Mordecai, James, Thomas and John, and five daughters, Mary, married to Joseph Boone; Martha, Ann, married to William Glasgow;

Anna and Phoebe, the latter married to David Jones.

After William Glasgow's death his widow, Ann, daughter of Abraham Lincoln, married George M. Brobst. Their daughter, Catharine, married Benjamin Stahle, and the following children were born to them: Elizabeth A., (Principal of the Reading Girls' High School a number of years); Martha L. and Mary, the last named marrying Franklin Bitting.

Moved to Virginia.

About 1750, at the time the Boones left Exeter for the South, Mordecai Lincoln's son, John, moved with his family to Virginia. From there his son, Abraham, moved to Kentucky, and in 1782 was killed while in a corn field by an Indian. He left three sons, of whom, Thomas, the youngest, was the father of the President.

Nancy Hanks, the wife of Thomas Lincoln, was the granddaughter of John Hanks, who also left Berks county about 1750, and finally settled in Virginia, where Nancy was born. Thomas Lincoln settled with his family in a barren region in Kentucky, and there in an humble cabin President Abraham Lincoln was born. As a boy he was fond of fishing and hunting. In 1816 Thomas Lincoln went down the Ohio river with his family and located in Indiana, where, in October, 1818, Abraham's mother died when he was in his 10th year, and 13 months thereafter his father married again. Young Abraham wore coarse home-made clothing and a coon skin cap. With his sister he traveled to a log school house four miles away. His stepmother encouraged him in his studies, and at night he sat in the fire light and read, ciphered and scribbled on the wooden fire shovel. He read everything within reach and was noted as a good speller.

Moved to Illinois.

In 1830 the Lincoln family moved to Illinois, Abraham being the driver of a wagon pulled by four oxen. He split the timber for the erection of a log cabin, built it and enclosed 10 acres of land with a rail fence of his own making. In after life he was often called "Lincoln, the rail splitter."



His Political Career.

Abraham Lincoln learned surveying and read law. In 1834 he was elected to the Illinois Legislature, and re-elected three times. In 1836 he was admitted to the bar to practice law and in 1839 moved to Springfield, the State capital. In 1846 he was elected to Congress; on November 6, 1860, he was elected President of the United States, and was inaugurated March 4, 1861. June 8, 1864, Mr. Lincoln was unanimously renominated for President by the National Republican Convention at Baltimore, Md., re-elected and on his second inauguration, March 4, 1865, he delivered an address which it is alleged, will stand forever as a model of lofty eloquence and august morality. As soon as his first election had been assured, preparations were made by Southern States to withdraw from the Union, and a provisional government termed "The Confederate States of America" was organized, with Jefferson Davis as President, at Montgomery, Ala., February 4, 1862.

Proclaimed Emancipation.

September 22, 1862, President Lincoln announced that unless the revolting States should return to their allegiance to the United States by January, 1863, he should declare the slaves of those States to be free. When that time arrived he issued his celebrated "Proclamation of Emancipation."

Shot in Ford's Theatre.

On the evening of April 14, 1865, accompanied by Mrs. Lincoln, Major Rathbone and Miss Harris, President Lincoln attended a performance of "Our American Cousin," at Ford's Theatre, Washington. In the midst of the play John Wilkes Booth, an actor, stealthily entered the box where Mr. Lincoln was sitting and

discharged a pistol at the President's head. Then leaping from the box to the stage, with a knife dripping with the blood of Major Rathbone, whom he had stabbed, he shouted "Sic semper tyrannis, the South is avenged." The ball having lodged in the President's brain, he died the following morning about 7.30 o'clock. Booth escaped from the theatre, mounted a horse and fled. After wandering 10 days, he was tracked to a barn, where, refusing to surrender, he was shot and died soon thereafter.

thereafter.



President Lincoln's Signature.



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Mr. Lincoln married Mary, daughter of Robert S. Todd, of Lexington, Ky., November 4, 1842, by whom he had four children, three of whom died, leaving one son, Robert Todd Lincoln, who was born at Springfield, Ill., August 1, 1843, and was educated at Phillips' Exeter College and at Harvard University. During the latter part of the Civil War he served as a captain on the staff of Gen. Grant. After the war he practiced law in Chicago until 1881, when he became Secretary of War in Garfield's Cabinet. This office he retained until the close of President Chester A. Arthur's administration, when he returned to his law practice in Chicago. In 1889 President Harrison appointed him Minister to England.



ERKS COUNTY LINCOLNS.

he "Eagle's" Visit to Aged Abraham Lincoln, at Churchtown---Family Reminiscences. *Eagle Nov 4 1894*

Abraham Lincoln, who now lives a few squares outside the quiet little village of Churchtown, Carverton township, Lancaster county, at the advanced age of 82 years, is one of the most remarkable characters in this country, considered from an historical standpoint. He is a not far distant relative of the immortal Abraham, who was one of the greatest and most revered presidents the United States ever had, although he never learned more of school than the "3 R's"—reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic. The living Abraham Lincoln does not by any means only resemble the martyred one by name, but his features, stature and general appearance so strikingly resemble the president that one can readily see that they are of the same family. The EAGLE, in keeping with its usual enterprise, for the first time brings to public notice this branch of the Lincoln family, although scores of volumes and newspaper articles have been written on the history of the

honest old man. He is ever ready to lend a helping hand, and like the president, has many a time given aid at a big sacrifice to his own interests. Students of history will remember what an immense and ever-increasing influence the president had upon the popular understanding on account of his sympathetic nature, which endeared him more to the popular heart than Geo. Washington ever was to the people of his time. Abraham Lincoln, of Lancaster county, is a great lover of humor in his quiet way, and one of his greatest pleasures is to sit and relate laughable incidents and listen to the jokes of his friends. Years ago, when his physical condition was better than now, he was a noted joker. To this day he can create round after round of mirth among the most staid people, who, like the humorously inclined, come to look after his health and general welfare frequently. It is conceded on all sides that the gatherings on the Lincoln farm are by far the most lively that take place in that section. They are by no means slow gatherings that Mr. Lincoln attends, although he very seldom makes a rapid move. His conversation is not rapid, and jokes and funny sayings come slowly, but in such a droll manner that they are irresistible. President Lincoln's reputation as a joker has spread all over the civilized world. Here again we find a faculty that developed spontaneously in the president as well as with his Lancaster county relative and namesake. The president, even during the most trying period of the rebellion, refreshed his mind regularly by making a little fun. Prejudiced newspapers and speakers of the opposition party, especially during the campaign of 1860, represented him as a light-minded trifler, who amused himself with frivolous story-telling and coarse jokes, while the flood of the people was flowing in streams. But the masses knew that the man at the head of affairs, on whose forehead the twinkle of humor so frequently changed into an expression of profound sadness, was more than any other deeply distressed by the suffering he witnessed. The American public knew that he felt the pain of every wound that was inflicted on the battle-

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, OF CHURCHTOWN.

Lincolns, the Lancaster county Abraham was missed in all of them. Not because his connection with the president is too remote, but simply because he was unknown to these writers. His characteristics, taste and mode of life are also very much in accord with the habits of the great emancipator. Like the latter, he is so modest that he scarcely ever makes reference to his renowned relatives. He leads a quiet, unassuming and worthy life, minding his own business first except where his aid is needed by his neighbors. His kind and loving disposition, open heart and frankness of manner have greatly endeared him to the people of his native place, and strangers visiting him invariably feel a deep admiration for this pleasant and



field, and the anguish of every woman or child who had lost husband or father. Whenever he could, he was eager to alleviate sorrow, and his mercy was never impaired in vain. He saved hundreds who had received a death sentence during the war. President Lincoln possessed the same open manner and kindly feeling we find the Churchtown Abraham of to-day. Every citizen could approach the president with complaint, expostulation, or advice, without danger of meeting a rebuff from power—proud authority or humiliating condescension. This privilege was used by so many and with such unsparing freedom that only super-human patience could have endured it all.

The accompanying pictures of the 2 Abraham Lincolns show the resemblance plainly. That of Abraham Lincoln of Churchtown was taken from a photograph more expressly for the *Post*, and is the first picture of him ever published. He had his picture taken only once before in his life, and that when he was quite young. During the last 5 years he was frequently asked to sit for a photograph, but in his simplicity he invariably refused, saying he detested making a show of himself. This again shows a characteristic that was even more for child than adult. His modesty, practiced in the most unassuming way, if Lincoln would not be called the world's photographer to do his work, had he not taken this picture. The snapshot given received the impression of his features before he had time to demonstrate. After it was over he, of course, only smiled at the trick. The picture does not quite bring

out the Lincoln features as well as might be expected on account of the spectacles he wore. He even had on 2 pair at the time. His eyesight commenced failing him about 20 years ago on account of cataract. It grew worse and worse and now he is almost blind. He was compelled to stop regular work shortly after the disorder set in and has been in retirement ever since. He lives on a finely kept farm of 100 acres, which is operated by a tenant. Mr. Lincoln takes much more pride in the appearance of his farm than he does in his own appearance. He was much more willing to have a picture of his house published than his own likeness. The accompanying picture of his residence gives some idea of this unusually stately farm house. It is a very handsome structure and is in excellent repair. There is a lane passing by the house which is studded on both sides with regular rows of very tall and nicely trimmed poplar trees. The garden is one of those beautiful old-fashioned ones in which the walks are lined with elegantly shaped rows of boxwood. Mr. Lincoln has been a farmer all his life and always loved the work. The last 15 years he has done no work worthy of mention and his eyes caused him a great deal of pain. Quite a number of operations have been performed. He was married when a young man to Miss Sarah Jenkins, of near his present home. They have only one child, Elizabeth, who still lives with her father and mother and does all in her power to make the burdens of old age as light for them as possible.

Mr. Lincoln was born and raised in the township in which he now lives. He has a very large circle of friends, including a number of Reading people. Ex-Mayor James R. Kenney and J. Howard Jacobs, Esq., are especial friends of his, and the old gentleman was very solicitous about their health.

Following is a short history of the Lincoln family, which shows just how the live Mr. Lincoln is related to the president:

The first Lincolns that reached this country landed in New England. They were Quakers and all came from England. Some of the early records show that several Lincolns landed on the coast of Massachusetts as early as 1680. They cleared land, erected houses and farmed like the rest of the settlers of that region. For a time they prospered, but before the beginning of the 18th century Mordecai Lincoln was the only grown male member of the family left in New England. Two men by the name of Lincoln had been killed by Indians and one had returned to England. His high standing in the mother country allowed him this rare privilege of returning with his family. Mordecai Lincoln, learning that in Pennsylvania, where there were hardly any people that time except Quakers, there was less trouble with the Indians, decided to remove his family to this state. Another reason why he was anxious to come here was that he was very desirous to be where there were more people of his own denomination. In New England the Puritans were several times as numerous as all other classes combined, and the Quakers were by no means always used as they should be. Mordecai left Massachusetts with his family about the year 1717, and settled in New Jersey, where he remained until 1731, when he moved to what is now



MR. LINCOLN'S RESIDENCE.

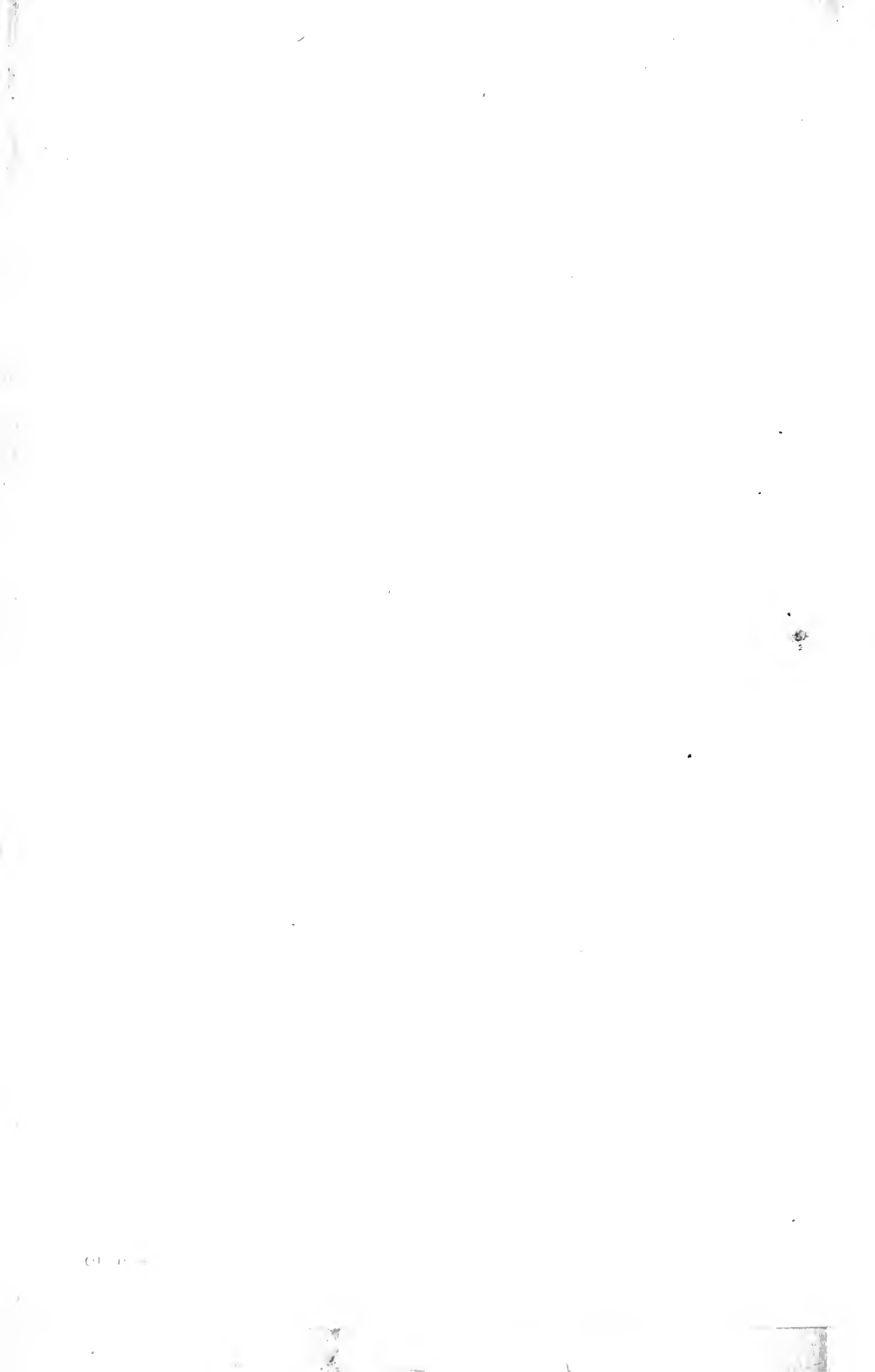
Exeter township, Berks county. The London company, consisting of Tobias Callet, Daniel Quair and Henry Goldney, took up 1,000 acres of land on the east side of the Schuylkill river, that had been granted to the company by William Penn, in 1699. The warrant was issued October 18, 1716, and on Nov. 9, 1717, the patent was issued. In February, 1718, the company granted their right to Andrew Robeson, then of Roxbury township, Phila. county. In May, 1750, the tract became vested in Mordecai Lincoln. Mr. Lincoln immediately commenced improving



the land. He erected a house for his own use and soon afterwards was instrumental in erecting a Quaker house of worship near where the present Friends' meeting house stands in Exeter township. Mr. Lincoln owned more land than any other person in this part of the state that time and was one of the leading men otherwise. He died before the age of 65 and was buried in the church yard adjoining the Exeter meeting house. At the time of his death he had only 2 children, Mordecai and Thomas, but more than 6 months after the father's burial a posthumous son was born and named Abraham. When the latter first saw this world the youngest of his brothers was already married. The property of Mordecai, the elder, was equally divided among the 3 sons. Mordecai, jr., also died in Exeter, and was buried in the Quaker churchyard of that place. About 1759, at the same time the Boones and Hanks left Oley and vicinity for the south, John Lincoln, son of Mordecai, jr., left with his family for the Shenandoah valley, Rockingham Co., Va. The family prospered here, and finally a portion of these Lincolns moved to Kentucky, where they had great adventures with the Indians. Among the Lincolns who were killed was Abraham, who left three sons, the youngest of whom Thomas was the father of the president. Abraham Lincoln, the posthumous of the elder Mordecai, who was the first known Lincoln by the name of Abraham and who was so very prominent in the early political history of Berks county, was the grandfather of the Abraham Lincoln now living near Churchtown. He also lived and died in Exeter. He had 4 sons and a number of daughters. The sons

were—Caleb, John, Samuel, Mordecai and David. Caleb died near Morgantown some 60 years ago, leaving 3 children. Dr. James Boone Lincoln, of Churchtown, who is now in the employ of the Penna. railroad company, is a grandson of Caleb. His father's name is Samuel. Some of the Lincoln's of the present day use the middle name Boone because some of the elder Lincoln's were married to Boones. Daniel Boone, the Kentucky pioneer, and his family were great friends of the Lincoln's. The grandfather of Abraham, of Churchtown, and Daniel Boone hunted together. John Lincoln, brother of Abraham, of Churchtown, died near Churchtown. He had 4 children, one of whom is Mrs. Samuel Cresswell, mother of Mrs. Howard Jacobs, of Reading. Samuel had 3 children, Edward, of Churchtown; Margaret, Mrs. Abner James, of Cone-tora station; and Elizabeth, Mrs. John Heitzler, of near Churchtown. Mordecai had some 49 years ago in Philadelphia. He was never married. David Lincoln died at Birdsboro a number of years ago. His children are, Clara, married to Jeremiah Garvin, of Leesport, Misses Mary and Annie, William, cashier in the Birdsboro bank, and Dr. James Lincoln who died several years ago. David Lincoln was quite a prominent man in Birdsboro. Lincolntown is named after him. In the foregoing sketch of the Lincoln family a great deal of information never before published, is brought to light. None of the Lincolns had many children, and they were nearly all named after some member of a previous generation. The Mordecais, Abrahams, Johns and Elizabeths were not allowed to pass out of existence. New names were rarely given the children. An unusually large number of the ladies of the family died old maids. Abraham Lincoln, of Churchtown, has a very well preserved grandfather's clock handed down from his grandfather, which he values very highly. He also has a small sassafras keg holding a quart, that was made by his grandfather. It doesn't contain a single hoop, being cut out of a solid piece of wood. The grandfather who made this little keg is the one after whom it is thought President Lincoln was named. That the branch of the Lincoln family down south communicated with those in Exeter is positively known. Hence it is very plausible that Thomas Lincoln's son was named after the prominent Berks county relative, probably in order to induce the latter to send the child a nice present, as is still customary among people in needy circumstances. There were not many people living in the time of the president's boyhood who were more in need of outside aid than his parents.

were James, Thomas, Mordecai and John. The first named was the father of the living Abraham Lincoln. Thomas, Mordecai, John and their sisters are buried at Exeter. James Lincoln moved to Lancaster county shortly after the beginning of the present century. He like all the old Lincolns, was a farmer. He died at the age of 94 years and was buried at Morgantown. Abraham Lincoln received a fair education. The Quaker ministers who visited the Exeter meeting house gave him most of his instruction. Prior to the revolution he served as a county commissioner of Berks from 1772 to 1775 and continued in office by re-election until 1775. On March 21, 1777, he was appointed one of the substitutes of the county, but it is not known how long he served in this position. He represented the county in general assembly from 1782 to 1786, and was a delegate to the Penna. convention to ratify the federal constitution in 1787. He did not sign the ratification. Mr. Lincoln was also a member of the constitutional convention of 1789-90. He died at his residence, in Exeter, Jan. 31, 1806. In 1751 he married Anne Boone, a daughter of James Boone and Mary Foulke. She was a full cousin of Col. Daniel Boone, the pioneer of Kentucky. Abraham Lincoln, of Churchtown, son of James Lincoln, had 5 broth-



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